

## Description

# UNOBTRUSIVE STORAGE POCKET

### CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of priority to United States Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/444,936, filed on February 4, 2003, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.

### BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates to storage pockets and, in particular, to unobtrusive storage pockets that can be worn under a garment.

[0003] When dancing or engaged in other physical activities, it is common for people to desire to carry as few items as possible. Some essential items may include a form of identification, a credit card, money and a key. Most of these personal items are easily carried in one's pockets. However, not all garments have pockets. In particular, many women's garments lack pockets. Accordingly, many

women carry a purse or pocketbook when wearing such garments. However, carrying a purse or pocketbook is not always desirable when dancing or engaging in other physical activities. The purse or pocket book can interfere with an otherwise flawless look and interfere with the wearer's motions.

[0004] Therefore, there is a need in the art for an unobtrusive storage pocket that does not take away from the user's appearance or interfere with the user's motions.

#### **SUMMARY OF INVENTION**

[0005] One or more of the above-mentioned needs in the art are satisfied by the disclosed storage pocket. The storage pocket may be placed under a garment to allow the user to engage in activities such as salsa dancing without being inhibited.

[0006] In a first embodiment of the invention, a system for storing personal items under a garment is provided. The system includes a storage compartment defining a pocket and an opening for permitting access to the pocket. A storage compartment support member is attached to the storage compartment. The storage compartment support member includes a sleeve for receiving a support. Upon receiving the support, the storage compartment support

member provides support for the storage compartment under the garment.

[0007] The details of these and other embodiments of the present invention are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

[0008] The present invention may take physical form in certain parts and steps, embodiments of which will be described in detail in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings that form a part hereof, wherein:

[0009] FIG. 1 shows a storage pocket in accordance with an embodiment of the invention.

[0010] FIG. 2 shows a storage pocket that includes lipstick stored with a storage sleeve in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

[0011] Figure 2A shows a cross sectional view of the storage pocket shown in FIG. 2.

[0012] FIG. 3 shows a storage pocket that includes a flap in accordance with an embodiment of the invention; and

[0013] FIG. 4 shows a storage pocket that includes a zipper in an opening in accordance with an embodiment of the inven-

tion.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0014] FIG. 1 shows a storage pocket 100 in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. Storage pocket 100 includes a storage compartment 102 defining a pocket and an opening for permitting access to the pocket. Storage compartment 102 may be formed by a single piece of material sewn together at the opposing sides of the storage compartment. The size of storage compartment 102 may be conveniently sized for carrying identification, money, credit cards and the like. A storage compartment support member 104 is attached to the storage compartment. Storage compartment support member 104 includes a sleeve 106 for receiving a support. Support member 104 may be implemented with an elastic material sewn above storage compartment 102. In one embodiment, a support is in the form of a cylindrical member, such as a lipstick container.

[0015] FIG. 2 illustrates an embodiment in which a support 202 is inserted into sleeve 106. FIG. 2A illustrates a cross sectional view of the storage pocket shown in FIG. 2. With support inserted into sleeve 106, support keeps storage compartment 106 from sliding below a desire part of a

garment, such as the waistband on a pair of pants or pantyhose. Sleeve 106 is preferably made of an elastic fabric, so that it expands to accommodate support 202 as support 202 is inserted into sleeve 106. Support 202 may provide supporting without requiring a clip or other attachment means.

[0016] FIG. 3 shows a storage pocket that includes a flap 302 in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. Flap 302 may be used to close the opening of storage compartment 102 to provide additional security for personal items. When a user moves or dances very fast, the flap may provide additional security so that the user does not need to worry about his or her personal items.

[0017] FIG. 4 shows a storage pocket that includes a zipper 402 in an opening in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. Zipper 402 may be used to close the opening of storage compartment 102 to provide additional security for personal item. Of course other conventional closure means may be used in other embodiments of the invention.

[0018] In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the storage pocket may further include a plurality of secondary panels defining a plurality of compartments. Moreover, the stor-

age pocket may further include a plurality of third panels attached to another side of storage compartment 102 defining additional storage compartments.

[0019] The unobtrusive storage pocket of the present invention may be made of cotton fabric or linen, preferably 100% cotton or linen, as it is against the skin and will get sweaty.

[0020] In conclusion, herein is presented an unobtrusive storage pocket, which allows a user to hold a few personal items, such as identification, credit cards, cash and lipstick, which can be attached onto a garment without a clip and fits inside of a waistband, pant or pantyhose so that it is conveniently available and unobtrusive to the user. Accordingly, the invention is embodied in the form shown in the various drawings. Numerous variations are possible while maintaining the spirit of the invention. Such variations are contemplated as being part of the present invention.